

A Rural District's Journey

From Desperation



A red classic Ford Mustang is driving on a multi-lane highway. Above the car is a large white banner with a yellow border. The banner contains the text "...to Transformation!". There are white hand-drawn arrows and starburst graphics around the car and banner. A white note in the bottom left corner identifies the school district.

*...to
Transformation!*

Payson Unified
School District

What is a
Community of
Practice on
Transition?



Offer services to
ALL students in:

- Education
- Employment
- Independent Living
- Emotional Support



VISION:

Improving
Successful
Outcomes for
Youth and
Young Adults
with and
without
Disabilities

The Payson Community of Practice on Transition (PCoPT) models the State & Federal Community of Practice on Transition.

Payson's unique focus assists **ALL** students because "we can accomplish anything together."



The Benefits of PCoPT



- Making relationships and improving teamwork
- Accelerate learning and increase knowledge
- Increased motivation
- Creative innovation

A photograph of a person wearing a grey beanie and a blue jacket, sitting in the driver's seat of a dark-colored SUV. The person is looking out the rear window, which is covered in rain droplets. The car is on a wet, paved road that curves into the distance. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape under an overcast sky. A yellow border surrounds the entire image.

No Looking Back!

Objectives:

- Learn how to align transition, graduation, and dropout prevention with community needs
- Learn how to create your own COP
- Create your own action plan

Part 1 *Getting Started*



Options After High School



Ever
Wonder
where to
Begin

Need a
Road Map



Steps to Transformation!

- A. Data Mining
- B. DDD - Drill Down the Data
- C. Develop Ideas
- D. Share Data & Ideas with Administration
- E. Identify COPT Planning Partners
- F. Develop Community Partner
- G. Plan Agendas



Where our story began...

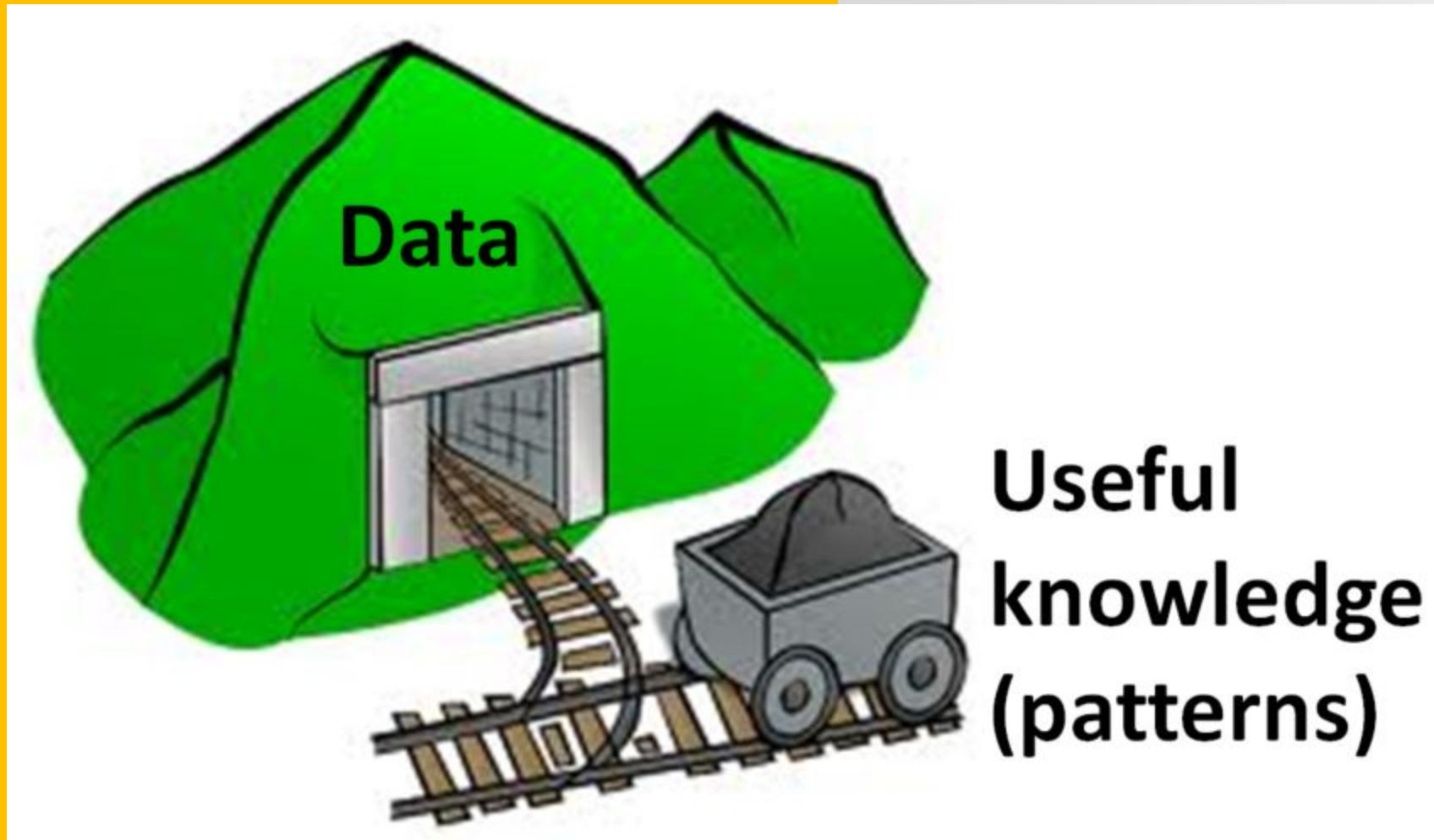
It was the best of times.....

It was a monitoring year, and our focus was drop out rate.



It was the worst of times.

Part 1 Data Mining



A. Data Sources

*PSO
Outcomes*

*Student
Information
System
Reports*

*Risk
Analysis*



*Communi-
ty Crisis
Intervent-
ion Data*

Campus

*A&E
Reports*

*Counseling
Reports*

*IEPs
Transition Plans
SOPs
Evaluations*

*RSA
Reports*

*DDD
Informa-
tion*

*McKinney
Vento
Reports*

Data Sources

PSO Outcomes

Risk Analysis

Student Information System Reports

Campus Administration and Counseling Reports

McKinney Vento Reports

Community Crisis Intervention Reports

Probation and Detention Reports

ADE Reports

IEPs, Evaluations, Transition Plans, Summary of Performance

Reports from RSA

Communication from Division of Developmental Disabilities



SAMPLE DATA: ADE County-Wide Report

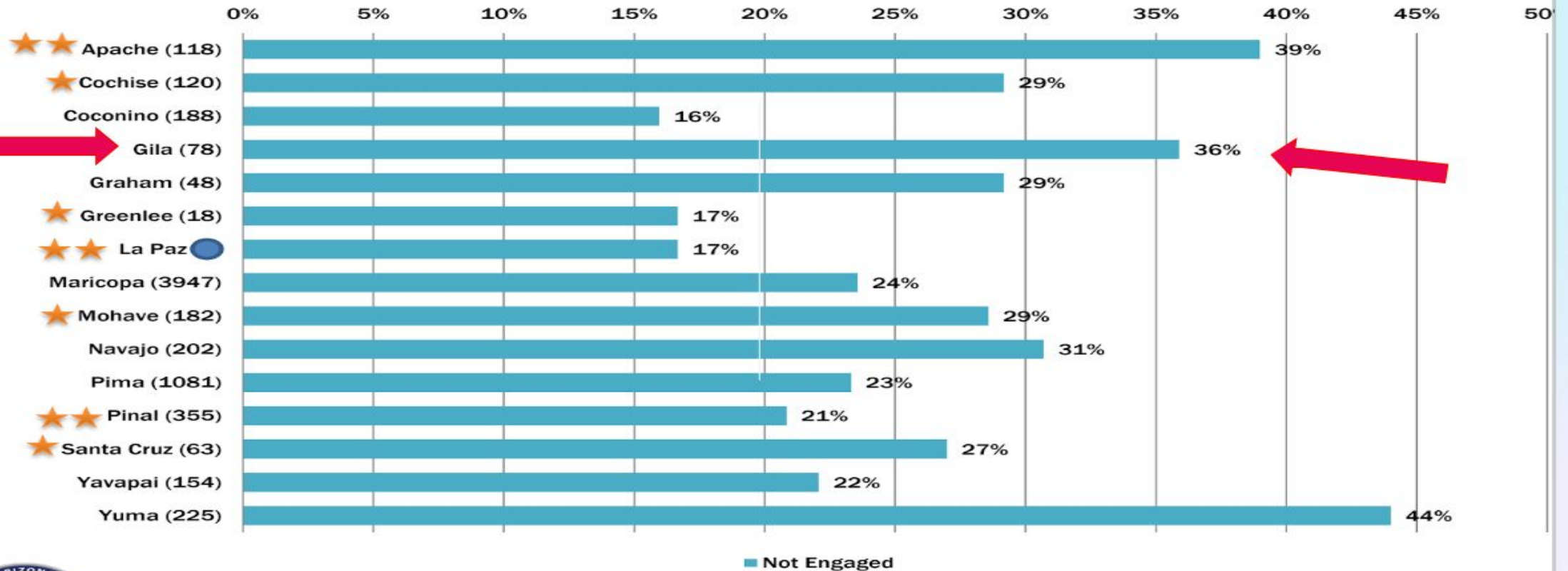
Total number of students with a disability and receiving services (age 14 and up) on an IEP in 2017. Gila County 319 total

[illegible]

SAMPLE DATA: 2016-17 Data from ADE

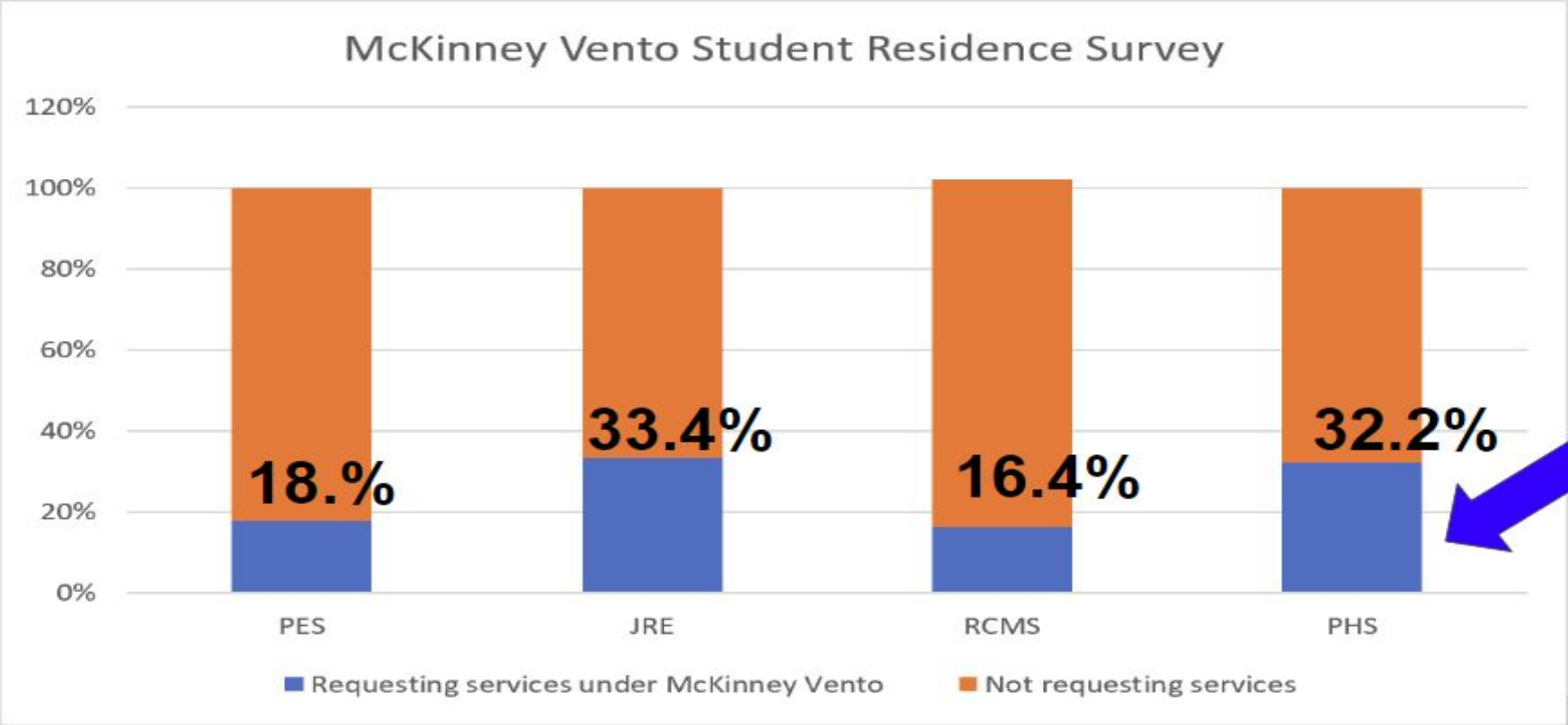
Not Engaged by County = **36%** Gila County

Not Engaged by County



SAMPLE DATA: McKinney-Vento Data

McKinney Vento Student Residence Survey completed by parents Data for PUSD



32.2% of PHS students are requesting assistance and services.

SAMPLE DATA: VR Data in January 2019

Vocational Rehabilitation Data

State of Arizona

- By end of 2017 year, 2215 students receiving VR services



PUSD

- By end of 2017, 1 student in PUSD received VR services and has continued services.
- To date, 6 students in PUSD are now receiving VR services.

SAMPLE DATA from Community Bridges

Data from Community Bridges - Jake Gardner

Rx Pain Reliever Misuse in Gila County



- 1 out of 9 - 8th graders
- 1 out of 7 - 10th graders
- 1 out of 5 - 12th graders
- Has taken Rx pain reliever without a doctor's prescription
- 10.8% within the past 30 days

Action Plan...Identify Data Sources

Your turn!



CoPT Action Plan



TASK	WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN
A. Data Mining			

B. Drill Down the Data -

THE DESPERATE DROPOUT DATA...

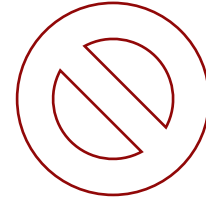
- *19% students were SWDs*
- *Majority were seniors*
- *All attended the main high school*
- *None attended the district small school*



Further drill down revealed...

3 students
returned as
5th year
seniors

ZERO
Zip
Nada



Connections
With VR or
DDD

Most
unengaged
were **Autism**
and **ED**

Multiple
failed
courses
EACH year

Minimally
meaningful
transition
activities

Action Plan...Drill Down the Data

Your turn!

TASK	WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN
B. Drill Down the Data			

Part 2 Planning



C. Develop Ideas and Recommendations

- District Data Team
 - Teachers
 - Transition Specialists
 - Counselors
 - Psychologist
 - Related Service Providers
 - Administrator
- Determine area of focus
- Attended a local ADE transitional workshop
- How can the community support your efforts?



D. Share with your Admin Team

- Data
- Recommendations



Conclusion? We don't have the resources or capacity...so

- The concept of a Community of Practice



Enlist admin support and blessing



***Action Plan...Develop Ideas & Recommendations
Share with your Admin Team***

Your turn!

TASK	WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN
C. Develop Ideas 			
D. Share with Administration			

E. Identify COPT Planning Partners



- Started a resource list of stakeholders and contact information
- Committed hands-on support from
 - RSA
 - Employment contractor
 - DDD and district personnel to assist with the endeavor
- Selected Ambassador from VR for our PCoPT

With our Planning Partners we...

- Scheduled meetings every two weeks
 - Created Vision & Mission
 - Created PCoPT brochure
 - Identified individuals and organizations to be contacted (stakeholders)
 - Developed an agenda with presentation
 - Selected refreshments for meeting
- Set key dates for first PCoPT meeting with location and time in a community location
- Adopted the Vision of the Arizona Community of Practice on Transition:

*Improving Successful Outcomes for Youth
and Young Adults with and without
Disabilities*

Each Community Partner Brings Unique Supports



- School Personnel/School Boards
- Town/City Officials
- Students/Parents
- Social service agencies/Contractors
- ADE
- Law Enforcement/Detention/Probation
- Behavioral Health/Community Crisis Teams
- Surrounding Private, Charter and District Schools
- Day Programs
- Hospitals/Medical Practitioners
- Large/Small Business



- DES Apprenticeship Office
- AZ at Work
- DCS
- DDD
- RSA
- ASDB
- Raising Special Kids
- AZ Talking Library
- Banks
- Civic Organizations
- Colleges/Universities/Trade Schools
- Military Recruiters



Part 3 Implementation



Schedule CoPT Location, Meeting Dates, Times, Invitations



Church Hall
Library
Multi-purpose Room

LOGISTICS - Prior to CoPT

Organize Volunteers - Students, Staff to...

- set up/take down room
- refreshments
- facilitate at tables
- greet
- usher
- man the sign-in table

WE LOVE
OUR VOLUNTEERS

The logo features the words "WE LOVE" in a large, pink, sans-serif font. The word "LOVE" is stylized, with the "O" replaced by a heart shape. The heart is filled with a rainbow gradient, transitioning from red at the top, through orange, yellow, green, and blue. Below "WE LOVE" is the phrase "OUR VOLUNTEERS" in a smaller, pink, sans-serif font.

LOGISTICS 1 - Prior to CoPT



- Print
 - sign in sheets
 - name tags
 - table tents
 - agendas
 - handouts
- Refreshments - coffee, tea, water, snacks

Logistics - Day of CoPT -

- Volunteers and snacks 1 hr early
- Set up room with tables of 6-8
- Post Gallery Walk charts
- Confirm A/V works!
- Greeters at the door
- Man the sign in table



Who can be your planning partners?

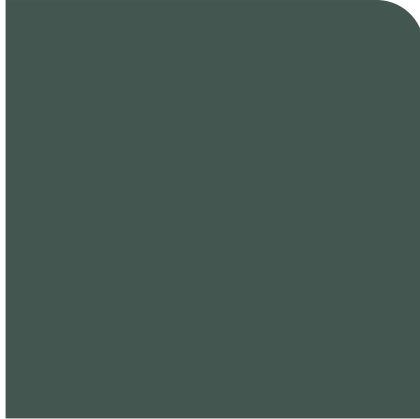
Planning Partners do...

- *Brainstorm list*
- *Create brochure, newsletter, communique*
- *Help with logistics of event*



F. Identify Community Partners





Personal Touch is the
KEY INGREDIENT!

We...

Beat the streets reaching
out and meeting members
in the community

Engaged in conversations
to learn more about what
their organization does

We shared general information like...

- Needs of students transitioning from high school
- Vision of PCoPT
- How they could bring value to the COP
- Interest of others in the community
- Date/Time/Location of meeting
- Collect contact information to add to master resource list.



100 Ways Businesses Can be Involved in Schools (See handout for more)

Volunteer

Tutor

Showcase student work

Provide demonstrations

Tours

Teach

Internships

Provide Parent/Staff Training



Participate

Demonstrate

Sponsor

Display notices

Serve as judges

Provide Scholarships

Serve on an Advisory Committee

Print



Identify Community Partners

- Who has knowledge of the community?
- What kinds of agencies/businesses/individuals could be contacted?

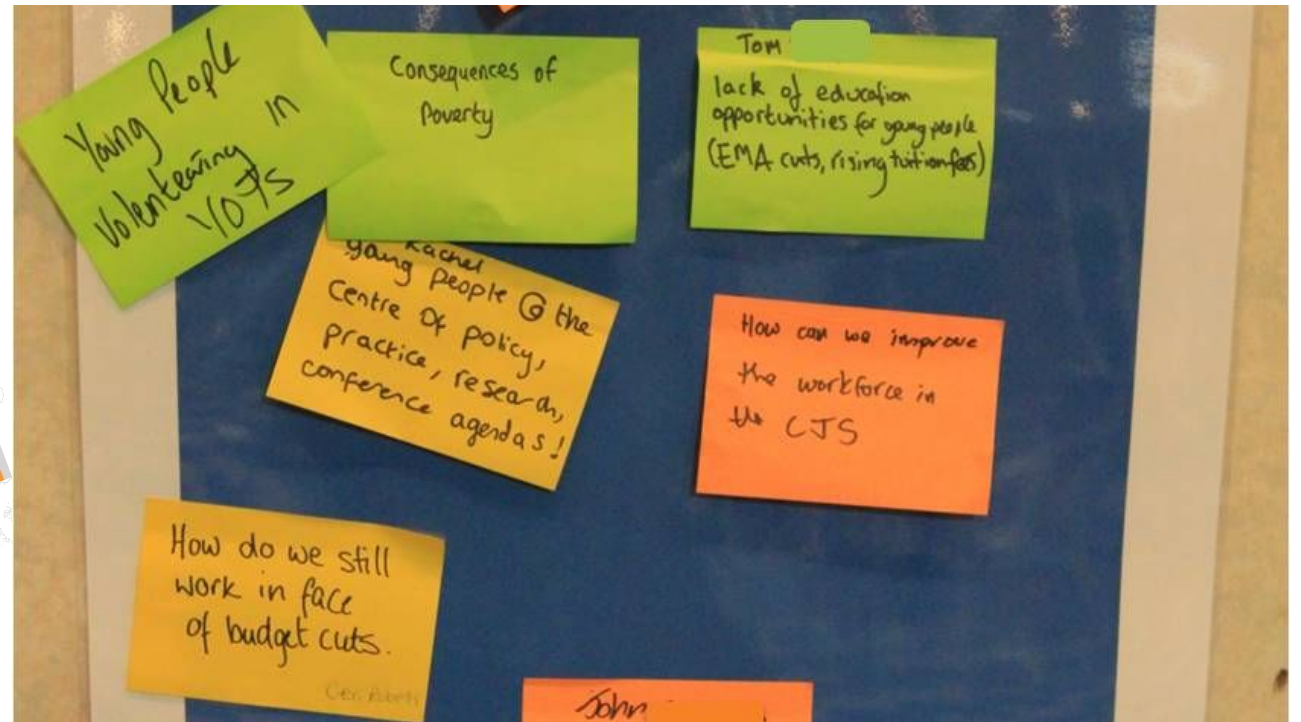
- Who has knowledge of the community?
- What kinds of agencies/businesses/individuals could be contacted?

Action Plan...Who can be your CoPT partners?

Your turn!

TASK	WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN
E. Identify <u>CoPT</u> Planning Partners			
F. Identify <u>CoPT</u> Community Partners			

G. Meeting Agendas



Logistics - Day of CoPT -

- Volunteers and snacks 1 hr early
- Set up room with tables of 6-8
- Post Gallery Walk charts
- Confirm A/V works! mics, projector
- Greeters at the door
- Man the sign in table



Purpose and focus of PCoPT first meeting

Gather the community to...

1. Gain knowledge of transition to adulthood
2. Emphasize the need for student success
3. Identify Strengths, Needs, Gaps
4. Start the dialogue how to do this
TOGETHER



Structure of the Meetings

Inform through...

Data

Perspectives- Student, Parent, Teacher,
Administrator, Business Partner

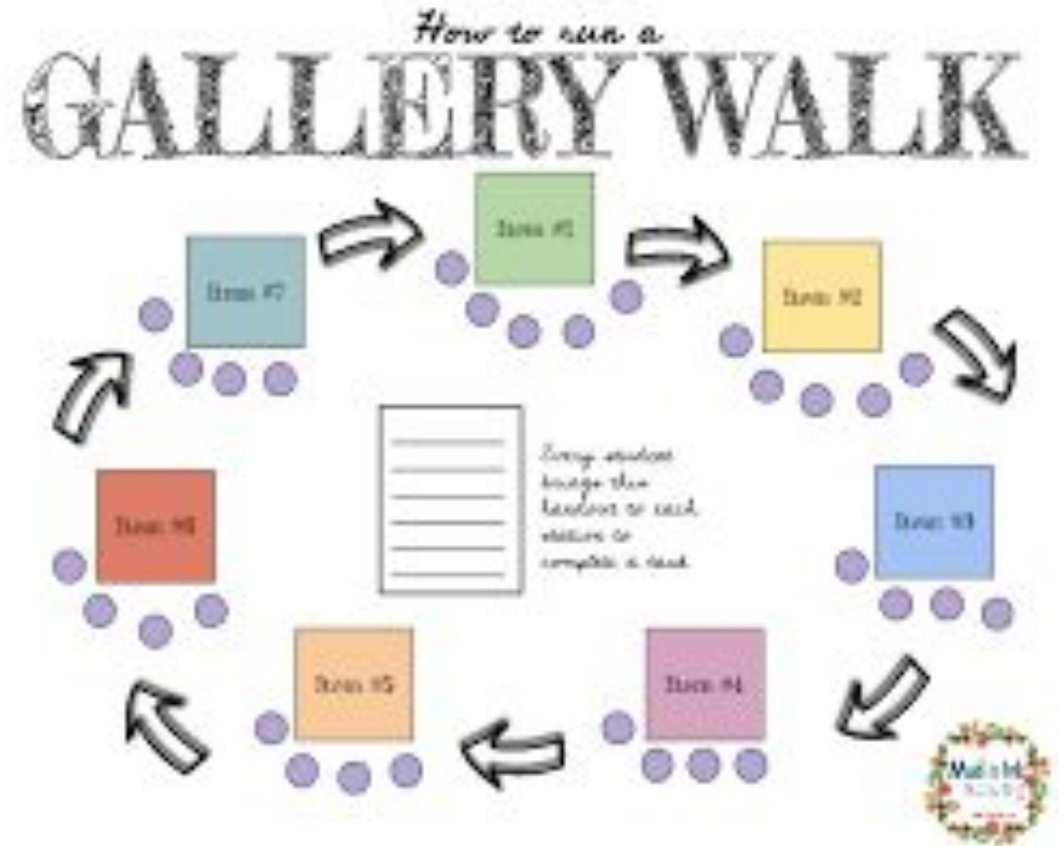
Activities:

- Gallery Walk with Providers
- Round Tables KWL (1st mtg only)
- Round Table with Presentation - grouped by common purpose



Meeting
for Results

Gallery Walk



Time for Round Table Group Work!

Participants were strategically placed at tables to identify the strengths, needs, and gaps of our community to meet the needs in the areas of...

- Education
- Employment
- Independent Living
- Emotional/Mental Health



Round Table Group Work on Needs

- Given a specific need to address
- Identified actions that would meet the need
- Each Partner identified and committed to one action
- Report out the actions





**Assign
Roles at
Each
Table**

After 1st meeting the Planning Partners & Admin...


- Reviewed the KWL data
- Created and prioritized a needs list
- Identified immediate action steps
- Identified steps for the Community Partners
- NETWORKED!

Our Process



G. Action Plan...Meeting Agendas

Create Your First Agenda!

TASK	WHO	WHAT	BY WHEN
G. Meeting Agendas 			

Purpose and Focus of Next Meetings

- Report on data & identified needs from the KWL
- Partners reported on activities
- New Perspectives
- Student Involvement
- Gallery Walk with other Partners
- More NETWORKING





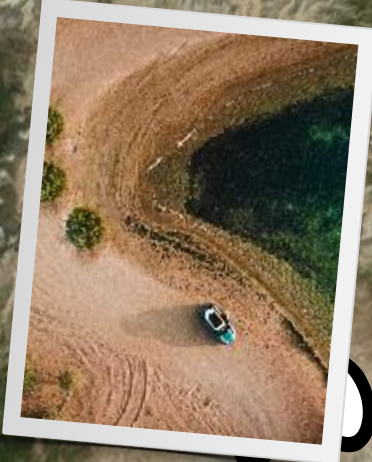
*On reflection, we learned
we want...*

- 1. More student engagement
- project based learning*
- 2. Parent/ Business
engagement from the get
go*
- 3. 3 CoPT meetings per year*



What's
your
journey?

Where do
you go
from
here?





Thank you for coming today!

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